

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4274
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CONFIDENTIAL BERLIN 5475

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GE, KN

SUBJECT: HONECKER MEETING WITH NORTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR

REF: STATE 048386

WHILE WE HAVE NOTICED NO APPARENT CHANGES IN GDR/NORTH KOREAN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS IN EAST BERLIN, IT MAY BE THAT THE RECENT SMUGGLING SCANDAL INVOLVING NORTH KOREAN DIPLOMATS IN SCANDANAVIA IS PART OF THE REASON FOR THE OMISSION OF BROTHERLY WARMTH FROM NEUES DEUTSCHLAND'S ACCOUNT OF HONECKER'S RECEPTION OF DEPARTING NORTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR RI. WE HAVE HEARD FROM THE DANISH EMBASSY HERE THAT THERE ARE STRONG INDICATIONS THAT ILLEGAL NORTH KOREAN ACTIVITIES IN SCANDANAVIA WERE ORGANIZED AND DIRECTED FROM THE LARGE NORTH KOREAN EMBASSY IN EAST BERLIN. IF TRUE, THE ROLE OF THE EMBASSY MAY HAVE BEEN ENOUGH OF AN EMBARRASSMENT TO THE EAST GERMANS TO SOUR THEIR ATTITUDE TOWARD AMBASSADOR RI, WHO HAD BEEN IN EAST BERLIN SINCE LATE 1969 AND FUNCTIONED IN THE LATER PART OF HIS STAY AS DEAN OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

POLANSKY

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Message Attributes

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